

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)	Attorney Docket No. 087522785336
Machael, Jay R. et al.)	
)	
Application No.:)	
10/750,576)	
)	
Filed:)	
December 30, 2003)	
)	
For:)	
CHAIR BACK REST WITH)	
IMPROVED RESILIENCE AND)	
SUPPORT)	
)	
Examiner:)	
White, Rodney Barnett)	
)	
Art Unit:)	
3636)	
)	
Confirmation No.:)	
8920)	

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWING

In FIG. 1, please amend the drawing by changing the dotted lines of the seat and column to solid lines, by adding the following numerals: 11, 34, 36, 38, 50, 52, by changing the lead lines from numerals 12, 14, 16 and 32 and by deleting the numerals 23, 34, 36, 40 and 42, all as shown in the attached amended drawing of FIG. 1 of the Replacement Sheet (page 1).

Please amend FIG. 2 by adding numerals 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56 and 60, and deleting the numerals 14, 16, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 42, all as shown in the attached amended FIG. 2.

Please amend FIG. 3 by adding the numerals 34, 36, 38, 54, 56 and 58 and deleting the numerals 32, 36, 37 and 38, all as shown in the attached amended FIG. 3.

Please amend FIG. 4 by adding the numerals 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 142a, 142b, 144, 144a, 144b, 150 and 152 and by deleting the numerals 134, 135, 137, 138, 139, 150 and 152, all as shown in the attached amended drawing of FIG. 4 of the Replacement Sheet (page 2).

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REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 12, and 15-17 have been cancelled and new claims 18-32 have been added so that claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 14 and 18-32 are now in the application

Claims 1, 4-9 and 11-17 are rejected under section 102 as being anticipated by Catelas (French 2557441) and claims 2-3 and 10 are rejected under section 103 as being unpatentable over Catelas in view of Parrish, U.S. 5,556,169 and Lin, U.S. Application 2004/0232756. To the extent that the rejections are applicable to new claims 18 and 30, the only independent claims now in the application, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Catelas reference illustrates an office chair with a pocket filled with yielding material which, when pressed by the back of the user, is deformed and pushed from one zone to another in the pocket. Parrish relates to a multi-layer conformable chair. Parrish and Lin are cited to show cushions of two layers which are sealed together.

New claim 18 includes a limitation that the fluid containing cushion is sealed "to form a vertically extending central chamber of generally constant width and vertically extending left and

right side chambers, each of said chambers being completely sealed from one another." None of the cited references disclose or suggest such structure. Therefore, claim 18 is not anticipated by any of the cited references nor made obvious should the references be combined. They would not include all of the limitations in new claim 18.

New claim 30 includes the limitations that the fluid containing cushion includes "first and second straight vertical seams attaching said two layers, said first and second vertical seams extending from the top portion seal to the bottom portion seal to form a first completely sealed centrally located fluid chamber, a third vertical seal extending from the top portion seal toward the bottom portion seal to form second and third chambers, said second and third chambers being in fluid communication with each other but not with said first chamber, and a fourth vertical seam extending from the top portion seal toward the bottom portion seal to form fourth and fifth side chambers, said fourth and fifth side chambers being in fluid communication with each other but not with said first chamber." As noted above, none of the references cited teach or suggest such limitations so that a rejection under section 102 or section 103 would not be proper.

The dependent claims include additional limitations, some of which are also not found in any of the cited art.

In view of the above comments and amendments, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the new claims and indicate allowance.

The Examiner is also requested to enter the amendments of the specification and drawings as they tend to clarify the application and do not introduce any new matter.

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Respectfully submitted,


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